

REMARKS

Claims 2, 7-18 and 20 are pending in the instant application and have been rejected. Claims 2 and 8 have been amended, and new Claims 21 - 31 have been submitted for consideration by the Examiner.

In response to the format of the Information Disclosure Statement, please consider the previously submitted Supplemental Form 1449 along with copies of the non-US patent documents cited thereon. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the cited references.

The rejection of Claims 2, 7-18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments overcome any lack of definiteness.

The rejection of Claims 2, 7-18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuki et al. (U.S.P.N. 5,150,905), is respectfully traversed. It is noted that Yuki did not publish more than one year before the priority date of the instant application.

Yuki does not disclose, teach or suggest that metal acrylate compounds can be employed for curing epoxies (e.g., the primary epoxy curing agent). While Yuki's Examples do disclose using zinc acrylate with rubber compounds, such does not obviate using metal acrylates for curing epoxies.

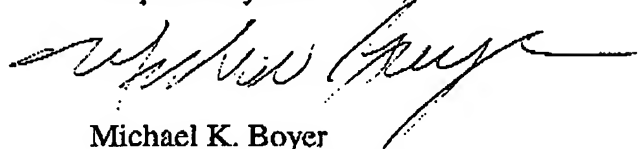
Yuki employs conventional curing or vulcanizing agents (e.g., see Col 2, Lines 25-35 of Yuki). The Office Action discusses removing such agents along with their function. If the required curing agents or vulcanizing agents such as dicumyl peroxide were removed from Yuki's Examples such would be expected to adversely affect, if not eliminate, the utility of Yuki's invention (e.g., golf balls containing uncured rubber would be produced). Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that Yuki cannot establish a prima facie case of obviousness. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

This Application is related to copending and commonly assigned Patent Application Nos. 10/978,081 and 11/003,758. Applicants respectfully request

consideration of these Applications as well as the references cited in the IDS attached hereto.

Should there be any fee due in connection with this application, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 15-0680 (ORSCHELN MANAGEMENT CO.). Should the Examiner deem that any further action on the part of Applicants would advance prosecution, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Encl.: Certificate of Facsimile Dated: October 01, 2005